

of the publication from which it is taken, together with the number of the volume and the date. These items are not infrequently overlooked, and the excerpt is accordingly shorn of an important part of its usefulness. But it often happens that the author in his distribution does not send a copy to some one who is interested in the subject, and who for various reasons would be glad to possess one. In this country almost the only course open to him is to apply directly to the author for it. In Germany he would usually have no difficulty in purchasing a copy for a small sum of some one of the numerous second-hand bookstores. We on this side of the Atlantic may now and then buy "extras" from the dealers in Berlin and Leipzig of the writings of Dr. Gray, Dr. Farlow, and other American authors, but we must pay for the journey they have taken. An American dealer having the confidence of both the authors and the purchasing public, who would take pains to gather up such papers as we have been speaking of, and offer them at reasonable rates by means of classified lists, would merit the gratitude of scientists, and we do not doubt would meet with pecuniary success. Then the modest author would feel certain that a demand indicated a real interest in his writings, and the modest purchaser, who lacked the temerity to solicit the article from the writer of it, could still supply his needs.

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## OPEN LETTERS.

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### *Nasturtium lacustre* Gray.

The upper leaves of *Nasturtium lacustre* detach themselves when fully matured and emit roots and a stem from the lower extremity. I have seen quantities of such young leaf-plants floating in deep rivers. I do not find this fact recorded.

L. H. BAILEY, JR.

*Agricultural College, Mich.*

### A double Orange.

My attention has been lately called to an interesting variety of orange which has been for sale in this market, said to have come from California. The fruit is about the size of a medium orange, with a slight swelling at the upper end. Dissection reveals a small orange almost completely enclosed in the skin of the large one. The core runs from the stem to about the center of the fruit, and is of about normal size. Then it expands, and for half of the remaining distance is more than twice its previous size. At this point is situated the small orange. This is composed of from seven to eight segments arranged as in the main orange. No seeds are found in the fruit, and it is sweet and juicy. This duplication of fruits was observed not in one orange alone, but in a whole box, and perhaps exists in more. At the upper or flower end of the fruit the skin does not wholly inclose the pulp, but exposes the segments of the smaller orange.

JOS. F. JAMES.

*Cincinnati, Ohio.*

### Arrangement of Herbarium.

I take out and put back the sheets of my grasses many times in the course of a month. My own collection of genera is arranged alphabetically; that of the college herbarium according to Bentham and Hooker's *Genera Plantarum*. The alphabetical list is much the handiest to use. I shall soon arrange the species of grasses in each genus alphabetically. I shall be glad to hear the views of others on this subject, especially of those who have tried both ways.

*Agricultural College, Mich.*

W. J. BEAL.